

– As used herein, the term “salvage receptor binding epitope” refers to an epitope of the Fc region of an IgG molecule (e.g., IgG1, IgG2, IgG3, and IgG4) that is responsible for increasing the *in vivo* serum half-life of the IgG molecule. As an example, Figures 2A and 2B show representative epitopes in underlining and the important residues in asterisks. The IgG1, IgG2, and IgG4 isotypes are preferred for determining the salvage receptor binding epitope.–

In The Claims

Please amend the following claim:

1. (Amended) A nucleic acid encoding a modified polypeptide with an improved *in vivo* half-life, said modified polypeptide comprising an Ig constant domain or Ig-like constant domain and a salvage receptor binding epitope within said Ig constant domain or Ig-like constant domain, wherein said epitope is absent from the unmodified polypeptide, wherein said salvage receptor epitope is taken from a loop of the CH₂ domain of an Fc region of an Ig molecule and wherein said polypeptide in modified form does not comprise an intact CH₂ domain or an intact Fc region.

Please add the following new claims:

21. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 1 wherein the Ig domain or Ig-like domain comprises a CH1 domain.

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22. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 1 wherein the unmodified polypeptide is an Fab, an (Fab')₂, or a receptor.
23. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 22 wherein the unmodified polypeptide is an anti-CD18 Fab or an anti-CD18 (Fab')₂.
24. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 23 wherein the modified polypeptide is human or humanized.
25. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 1 wherein said salvage receptor epitope comprises amino acids from 1 through about 11 of SEQ ID NO: 3.
26. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 1 wherein said salvage receptor comprises amino acids from 1 through about 11 of SEQ ID NO: 3 and amino acids from 1 through about 7 of SEQ ID NO: 11.
27. (New) The nucleic acid of claim 1 wherein said salvage receptor comprises amino acids from 1 through about 11 of SEQ ID NO: 3 and amino acids from 1 through about 8 of SEQ ID NO: 1.